

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-11 L-03 SS-20 NSC-10 SAJ-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5708

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 1370

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN UR US

SUBJECT: US BUSINESS REPRESENTATION IN MOSCOW

PASS COMMERCE

REF: A) STATE 18103 B) MOSCOW 10285, AUG 28, 1973

1. AS DEPT AWARE, OCT 18, 1972 LETTER FROM SOV FON TRADE MINISTER PATOLICHEV TO COMMERCE SECRETARY PETERSON, WITH ATTACHMENTS, SETS FORTH PERSONNEL CEILINGS ("NOT MORE THAN FIVE AMERICAN OR OTHER NON-SOVIET PERSONNEL), AS WELL AS SOVIET PERSONNEL IF DESIRED") AND OTHER CONDITIONS FOR OPERATION FOREIGN COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE OFFICES IN MOSCOW. EMBASSY'S INQUIRIES OF LOCAL OFFICES AMERICAN FIRMS INDICATE THAT NO ACCREDITED US COMPANY HAS THUS FAR SOUGHT TO BRING MORE THAN FIVE NON-SOVIETS TO RESIDE IN MOSCOW, AND ALSO THAT ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL REQUIRED BY SOME FIRMS FOR TEMPORARY PERIODS IN EXCESS OF THREE-FOUR WEEKS HAVE BEEN ABLE OBTAIN VISAS WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

2. SOLE ACCREDITED AMERICAN COMPANY WHICH HAS HAD AS MANY AS FIVE RESIDENT NON-SOVIET EMPLOYEES AT ANY ONE TIME, PAN AMERICAN, NOTES THAT SOVIETS RAISED NO OBJECTION WHEN PROPOSED ASSIGNMENT OF ADDITIONAL FOREIGNERS TO USSR WAS RAISED SOME YEARS AGO (PLAN DID NOT MATERIALIZE, AND PAN AM NOW HAS THREE RESIDENT NON-SOVIET EMPLOYEES).

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3. ALTHOUGH EXPLICIT LIMITATION ON RESIDENT NON-SOVIET EMPLOYEES FOR EACH FIRM HAS NOT BEEN TESTED, IN EFFECT AVAILABILITY OF HOUSING CONSTITUTES AN IMPLICIT LIMITATION ON TRANSFER HERE OF NON-SOVIET EMPLOYEES. ALL HOUSING FOR FOREIGNERS MUST BE OBTAINED THROUGH ONE GOVERNMENT AGENCY. THERE IS ALWAYS A WAITING LINE, AND IT IS NORMAL FOR FOREIGN COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES COMING TO RESIDE IN MOSCOW TO REMAIN IN HOTELS OR OTHER TEMPORARY LODGING FOR THREE-SIX MONTHS BEFORE MOVING INTO APARTMENTS. INDIVIDUAL COMPANY COMMENTS ON HOUSING TRANSMITTED REF B CONTINUE VALID.

4. EMBASSY KNOWS OF NO UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS FOR VISAS BY ACCREDITED AMERICAN FIRMS, EITHER FOR STAFF EXPANSION IN PRINCIPLE OR FOR PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS.DUBS

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